

**APPENDIX H**  
**OFFICIAL SEAL, STANDARD, AND FLAG OF THE CITY OF BOSTON**  
**CBC 1-2**



The City Seal was designed c. 1822, adopted in 1823, and slightly modified in 1827 by changing font, adding clouds, and re-formatting the motto. It was designed by John R. Penniman (c.1782-1841), New England's most famous flag painter, and consists of a view of the City, including the Massachusetts State House, with ships in the harbor in the foreground.

Encircling the seal at the top is the motto "Sicut Patribus Sit Deus Nobis" which means "God be with us as He was with our fathers" and is found at 1 Kings, VIII, 57. At the bottom is "Civitatis Regimine Donata A.D. 1822" which means "City-Status Granted by the Authority of the State in 1822."

The City Standard and the City Flag are made of silk, but the Flag may be made of bunting for outdoor display. Their body is "continental blue" with the white/blue seal in center with some "buff" highlights (continental blue, white, and buff are colors of the Revolutionary War uniforms of Boston soldiers). The Standard has fringe of buff, but the flag is without fringe. The reverse of the Standard has a representation of the Trimountain, but the Flag has no reverse except that the seal shall show through the bunting. The design for the Standard and Flag was proposed by the Columbus Day Committee in 1913, but the ordinance for the design and use of the flag/standard was not introduced into the City Council until January 16, 1914. After official action on June 22, 1914, June 29, 1914, and September 28, 1914, the ordinance was finally adopted by Council on January 29, 1917.